

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A ground washer for attachment by a grounding screw to a grounding terminal, said washer comprising:

a disc-shaped member which defines an opening for the reception therethrough of the grounding screw, said member including an annular portion surrounding said opening and being in a first plane;

a conical portion having a first and a second end, said conical portion being disposed concentrically around said annular portion;

a raised annular ridge disposed between said annular portion and said conical portion so as to provide an engagement surface for the grounding screw; and

an annular flange disposed concentrically around said conical portion and being in a second plane which is spaced from, but is generally parallel with, said first plane;

such that when the grounding screw is tightened down, the grounding screw pushes against said annular ridge so as to cause said conical portion of said washer to be compressed between the grounding screw and the grounding terminal thereby urging said first plane towards said second plan and forcing said disc-shaped member into contact with the grounding terminal.

2. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said washer is metallic.

3. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said opening is of a circular configuration.

4. A ground washer as set forth in claim 3, wherein said annular portion, said raised annular ridge, said conical portion and said annular flange are disposed concentrically relative to said opening.

5. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said opening is of an oval configuration.
6. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said annular portion includes a first surface and a second surface which is adapted to contact a plurality of teeth on the grounding terminal.
7. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said conical portion is of square conical configuration, said first end of said conical portion extending from said raised annular ridge.
8. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said raised annular ridge extends from said first end of said conical portion to said annular portion.
9. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said annular flange extends from said second end of said conical portion.
10. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said annular portion and said annular flange both make grounding contact with the grounding terminal.
11. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the grounding screw extends over the raised annular ridge and along said conical portion.
12. A ground washer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said conical portion and said ridge are of a "J" or hooked shaped configuration.